

REMARKS

Claims 11 and 13-17 are all the claims pending in the application.

Per the Examiner's suggestion in the advisory Action mailed December 20, 2006, claims 11, 16 and 17 have been amended to recite that the administration is to a patient in need thereof.

Accordingly, no new issue of patentability arises.

Furthermore, the amendments place the claims in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, entry of the amendment is requested, respectfully.

This Second Amendment is being filed in response to the Advisory Action mailed December 20, 2006.

In that Advisory action, the Examiner stated that Applicant's Response filed November 27, 2006 had been considered, but did not place the application in condition for allowance because the claims do not recite that the patients are those in need of the treatment recited in the preamble. Accordingly, the claims allegedly read on administration to any patient, not just those suffering from articular cartilage extracellular matrix degradation. The Examiner recommended amending the claims to recite that the patients are in need of such treatment.

The claims have been amended as suggested by the Examiner.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

SECOND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/525,015

Atty. Docket No.: Q86324

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

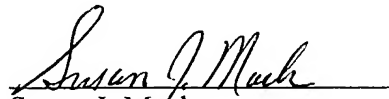
Respectfully submitted,

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